

Supplemental Preliminary Amendment

Preliminary to the examination of the above-captioned application, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1 and 5, with the following clean set of amended claims 1 and 5. A mark-up version of the amended claims is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

B1 1. (Twice amended) A method to enhance bone formation in a vertebrate animal which method comprises administering to a vertebrate animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound that inhibits proteasomal activity and said compound being selected from the group consisting of a peptidyl aldehyde, pentoxifylline (PTX) and epoxomicin, whereby bone formation is enhanced in said vertebrate animal.

B2 5. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said vertebrate animal is characterized by a condition selected from the group consisting of osteoporosis, bone fracture or deficiency, primary or secondary hyperparathyroidism, metastatic bone disease, osteolytic bone disease, and ^{bone healing in} post-plastic surgery.

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REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, claims 1, 5-7 and 19-23 will be pending. Claims 1 and 5 are amended to address the issue of the election of species requirement raised by the Examiner. Support for amended claims can be found throughout the application. Therefore, the above-described amendments do not introduce any new matter into the present application.

The Examiner stated, that "a peptidyl aldehyde" was an issue previously addressed in the patent application Serial Number 09/113,947 (43272-20026.00) and the current application was